NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

1201 Sixteenth Street N W Washington D C

OL. 1 FEBRUARY 1934 No. 9

On the Air

Broadcasts sponsored by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers each Friday afternoon between 3:30 and 4:00 oclock, Eastern Standard Time, during the Radio Review Hour, directed by Mrs. Claudine Macdonald, over the red network of the National Broadcasting Company, with WEAF as the key station.

Radio Schedule

February 23—PARENTS AND TEACHERS UNITE FOR RECOVERY IN EDUCATION. Miss Charl Williams, Fifth Vicepresident, N.C.P.T.

March 2—BEAUTY IN EVERY-DAY LIFE. Miss Elizabeth Robertson, Art Chairman, N.C.P.T.

March 9—PLAY OR PAY. Mr. J. W. Faust, Recreation Chairman, N.C.P.T.

March 16—ONLY ONE GOT PAST US. Miss Marian Telford, Safety Chairman, N.C.P.T.

March 23—THE INFLUENCE OF MOTION PICTURES ON THE CHARACTER, CONDUCT, AND HEALTH OF CHILDREN. Mrs. Robbins Gilman, Motion Pictures Chairman, N.C.P.T.

March 30—EDUCATION IN THE NEW ERA. Dr. George F. Zook, United States Commissioner of Education.

Single copies of these radio addresses may be obtained, after delivery, from the National Office. Inclose postage with request.

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The March number of the *National Congress Bulletin* will be NATIONAL CONVENTION ISSUE, carrying the preliminary program. Watch for it!

MRS. HUGH BRADFORD
National President

DEAR STATE PRESIDENTS:

Join with me in rejoicing over our membership gain! Our National Treasurer states that we have about 170,000 more members than at the same time last year. I offer my congratulations and appreciation to you and your state membership chairmen and to our national chairman. Only your intensive work could have brought such good results.

Would it be possible for us to make it a gain of 200,000 members by April 1? Shall we try?

I hope you are planning to send a big delegation to the National Convention in Des Moines, May 13-19.

Cordially,

MRS. HUGH BRADFORD,
National President.

Parent-Teacher Section Meeting

A parent-teacher section meeting will be held under the auspices of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, in connection with the Department of Superintendence Convention in Cleveland, Wednesday, February 28, at 2 P.M., in the Board of Education Auditorium. Mrs. Hugh Bradford, National President, will preside.

Program

Theme: The Dependent Child—Who Is Responsible

FOR HIS HEALTH—Miss Mary Murphy, National Chairman of Child Health, N.C.P.T., and Director, Elizabeth McCormick Memorial Fund.

FOR HIS SCHOOL ATTENDANCE — Dr. Milton S. Potter, Superintendent of Schools, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

FOR HIS SAFETY—Miss Marian Telford, National Chairman of Safety, N.C.P.T., and Technical Advisor, National Safety Council.

FOR HIS SOCIAL OUTLOOK—Miss Alida Bowler, National Chairman of Juvenile Protection, N.C.P.T., and U. S. Children's Bureau—Juvenile Delinquency.

DISCUSSION: What is to be done?

Leaders: Miss Charl Williams, Fifth Vicepresident, N.C.P.T., and Field Secretary, National Education Association. *Dr. Wm. McKinley Robinson,* National Chairman of Rural Service, N.C.P.T., and Director, Department of Rural Education, Western State Teachers College, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

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Mrs. Hugh Bradford, National President, will discuss the "Parent-Teacher Part in the Recovery Program," on February 24, at the after-dinner program of the Department of Supervisors and Teachers of Home Economics at the Department of Superintendence Convention, in Cleveland.

PURPOSE: The National Congress Bulletin is published monthly by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers for the information of parent-teacher leaders. Its purpose is to supply news and current information about activities of the National Congress—its officers, Board of Managers, committees, and state branches. Projects requiring immediate action will be brought to your attention first through this Bulletin. Its scope does not include articles on parent-teacher work or parent education, such as are published in Child Welfare, the National Parent-Teacher Magazine.

DISTRIBUTION: Each state board member should receive the Bulletin as soon as it is published. Each state board may have the Bulletin mailed direct to individual board members by paying 20 cents per year for each member, to cover the mailing costs. In some states, the state board budgets a sum to cover this cost or a collection is taken whereby each member pays. In some states, copies are distributed by the state president or from the state office.

National Convention

Program plans are well under way for the National Convention to be held in Des Moines, Iowa, May 13-19. Among interesting new features will be a series of panel discussions, and a public forum, under the direction of Dr. J. W. Studebaker, Superintendent of Des Moines Schools, whose forums during the past year have won nation-wide attention. Distinguished speakers include Mrs. Harold Ickes, author and wife of the Secretary of the Interior, and Dr. Charles Gilkey, University of Chicago.

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Needed for Exhibits

At the National Convention
Material from local units—
Programs
Invitations
Announcements
Posters
News Bulletins

Please send to the National Office any material or suggestions you may have for making the National Convention exhibits more interesting and helpful to delegates.

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P-T Exhibit

A parent-teacher booth will be provided by the Ohio Congress for an exhibit by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers at the Department of Superintendence Convention in Cleveland, February 24-March 1. Members of the Cleveland Council of Parents and Teachers will be in charge, under the direction of Mrs. Emmet C. Stopher, State President.

Founders Day

An increase in membership of 170,000 as compared with the same date last year, reported February 1 by Mrs. B. I. Elliott, National Treasurer, contributes a jubilant feeling to the celebration of Founders Day, February 17. That the National Congress of Parents and Teachers has won the interest and support of so many new members during the past year is indicative of the ever increasing importance of the parent-teacher movement.

The parent-teacher organization grows, not only in membership, but in public esteem. Each year finds it occupying a more important place in the life of the community. Each year finds it taking a broader view of its mission.

Those seeking an explanation for the steady growth of parent-teacher associations may find it in the universal appeal of its purposes, stated in 1897 by the Founder, Mrs. Theodore W. Birney, as follows:

"The National Congress, irrespective of creed, color, or condition, stands for all parenthood, childhood, homehood. Its platform is the universe; its organization, the human race."

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Important Notice

ANNUAL REPORTS—*Change of Date:* Annual state reports to the National Congress for 1933-34 are due as follows:

1. *State presidents'* reports due in the National Office, June 1.

2. *State directors* of Departments reports to national directors, due May 15.

3. *State chairmen's* reports to national chairmen, due May 15.

4. *State Summary* of Local Unit Information due in National Office, July 1.

Note: Where there is no corresponding national chairman, it would be appreciated if state chairmen would send a report of the work of the year to the National Office.

The change of date when reports are due has been made because reports are no longer presented at the National Convention, but in the Annual *Proceedings* of the Congress instead. The dates here announced are the latest possible for receipt of material to be included in the *Proceedings*.

Instructions about these reports will be sent early in March to the members of state boards.

Parent-Teacher Courses

Registrations for National Congress Correspondence Courses more than doubled during 1933, as compared with 1932. Illinois leads with the largest number of registrations for any one state, with Minnesota and Tennessee tying for second place. Each registration represents a group of from 5 to 50 persons, in 80 percent of the cases. During the past year 1,227 persons were awarded certificates for successful completion of one of the courses.

Plans for summer courses and conferences in colleges and universities are under way in five southern states and several middle western states. States desiring assistance in planning such courses should send their requests to the Education Division, National Office.

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Legislation

Federal Food and Drug Bill. To meet some of the objections to S.1944, commonly known as the Tugwell Bill, Senate Bill 2000 (Copeland) has been substituted. Practically all organizations which originally supported S.1944 have accepted S.2000. Since a number of other Food and Drug Bills have been introduced, care should be exercised in writing members of Congress to mention the Copeland Bill, S.2000.

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Notice

When mailing state bulletins and other material to national chairmen please use the address given on the directory in *Child Welfare Magazine*. Do *not* use the National Office address for these mailings, as it delays the delivery to national chairmen and in many cases adds to the mailing cost.

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Reprints of "Better Movies," by Mrs. Robbins Gilman, in *Child Welfare Magazine,* may be secured from the National Office or from the Federal Motion Picture Council, 134 B Street N. E., Washington, D. C. Price 8c a copy; quantity prices upon request.

Education in the Recovery Program

"Education in the United States has been greatly affected by the recovery program," declares United States Commissioner of Education George F. Zook.

How and where these emergency projects touch elbows with education is described in the January issue of *School Life,* official monthly journal of the Office of Education.

Federal Emergency Aid for Education

Through funds provided for teachers' salaries by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, "elementary and secondary schools in communities up to 5,000 population, according to the 1930 census, where the districts have made the maximum effort and are still obliged to close short of a normal length of school term," are enabled to complete the school year.

Under another F.E.R.A. ruling, allotments are authorized for part-time jobs for needy college students.

These authorizations, both dated February 2, 1934, cover points 1 and 6 of the program of the National Committee for Federal Emergency Aid for Education. Copies of each have been mailed to state presidents and state legislative chairmen.

Parent Education

Arrangements have been made under the Federal Emergency Relief Administration to provide aid to those interested in carrying on parent education work within the local emergency education programs. City, county, and state superintendents of schools are directing this work, in cooperation with relief administrators. Inquiries should be directed to them.

Emergency Nursery Schools

The National Advisory Committee on Emergency Nursery Schools, in cooperation with the United States Office of Education, has recently issued bulletins of information on Administration and Pro-

(Continued in Column Two)

Hearst Foundation Plans

Plans are nearing completion for the establishment of "The Phoebe Hearst Parent-Teacher Foundation," a memorial fund to be used by the District of Columbia Congress of Parents and Teachers for scholarships in junior and senior highschools, educational work of the organization, welfare work, and other parent-teacher activities, according to announcement at the Founders Day meeting of the D. C. Congress. The fund is to be administered by a group of seven trustees, all of whom are parent-teacher members, with Mrs. J. N. Saunders, President, as chairman.

(Continued from Column One)

gram, and Housing and Equipment for Emergency Nursery Schools. Material and information bulletins, prepared to assist those who are organizing and conducting emergency nursery schools, may be obtained from the Education Division of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, Washington, D. C.

Child Health Recovery Program

The Child Health Recovery Program, initiated at a conference held at the call of Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, in October, is making notable progress, according to reports issued by the Children's Bureau.

The National Congress of Parents and Teachers is lending its support, and parent-teacher associations throughout the land are acting as key agencies in furthering the program, especially as it relates to nutrition.

Under Civil Works Service Projects, needy nurses are being employed, with the supervision of public health nurses, to do child health work, with special reference to nutrition. More than 200,000 leaflets, giving a program for an undernourished child, have been distributed by the Children's Bureau. This includes approximately 10,000 copies distributed by the National Congress to state parent-teacher leaders.

Committee Relationships

National, State, and Local

National Congress committee plans provide assistance for local units, through the national chairmen and corresponding state chairmen. The national plan is broad and inclusive, but flexible enough to be adapted to local needs.

A. National chairmen provide—

1. Suggestions for local units, in the *Parent-Teacher Manual.*

2. Leaflet on the committee subject to supplement the *Manual.*

3. Plan of Work to help state chairmen in state and local work.

4. Assistance to state chairmen through correspondence.

B. State chairmen appointed by the state branch—

1. Promote the work of the national committee.

2. Maintain contacts with the national chairman.

3. Prepare a state plan of work, supplementing and adapting national plans.

4. Provide assistance to local units.

C. Local chairmen, officers, and other members use the material provided—

1. Select from the *Manual* suggestions applicable to local plans.

2. Study state plans of work for local units.

3. Read leaflet and *Child Welfare Magazine* for additional suggestions and information.

4. Maintain contacts with state chairmen.

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Thank You!

The response to requests, published in the *Bulletin,* for news clippings, radio talks, photographs for publicity, local unit charters, and other material has been gratifying. We can use still more of this material.

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Mrs. Herman Ferger, Seventh Vicepresident, is chairman of a committee to advise with colored associations.

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Arizona

Through the cooperation of the Home Economics Division of the State Department of Vocational Education and the Parent Education Committee of the *Arizona* State Congress, local leaders for study groups are being trained in Phoenix. The general plan is to provide prospective leaders with the training and help which will enable them to lead about five discussions of a study group.

Florida

The *Florida* Congress announces a weekly broadcast of a preschool parent education course over WJAX every Friday from 3-3:30 P.M., beginning January 12. This time was secured because it precedes the new N.B.C. program during the Woman's Radio Review on Fridays, from 3:30-4 P.M., E.S.T., featuring officers of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. The first series on the Florida program will be composed of six lessons based on *Parent Education Third Yearbook,* a National Congress publication, which may be ordered from the National Office.

The signature or theme song will be the official parent-teacher association song which will open each broadcast.—*Florida Parent-Teacher Bulletin.*

Idaho

A series of parent education conferences are to be held by the *Idaho* Congress, in conjunction with the two state normal schools and the southern branch of the state university, during March and April. A joint Idaho - Washington Parent Education Conference will be held in Spokane April 4-5.—MRS. JOHN E. HAYES, *State President.*

Illinois

A membership increase of more than 7,000 is reported by the *Illinois* Congress in its January bulletin.

Louisiana

Typical of reports indicating increased parent-teacher membership all over the country are reports from *Louisiana:* Mrs. W. W. Rickett, President, McDonogh P.T.A., New Orleans, reports 320 members this year (58 at the same time last year). Mrs. R. L. McHenry, Monroe, *Louisiana,* City Council President, reports 340 paid members December 1, an increase of over 300 percent compared with last year.

Minnesota

The Institute of Child Welfare of the University of Minnesota is cooperating with the state Congress in an experiment in teaching by radio. Two weekly programs are offered, one on "The Nature and Needs of the Child," by Mrs. Marion L. Faegre, and the other on "A Study of Adolescence," by Dr. Esther McGinnis.

Ohio

The National Emergency Administration, through its *Ohio* office, has called upon every County Emergency School chairman in the state of *Ohio* to immediately place on their staffs a radio teacher. The chief function of this radio teacher will be to induce the people of each county to make the most complete possible use of radio education, not only of the *Ohio* School of the Air, but also of some new and trail-blazing broadcasts.

The Emergency Junior Radio College has been in operation since Monday, January 15. Its broadcasts can be heard from radio station WOSU, 570 Kc (and possibly on other stations to be announced).

College credit may be obtained by doing the prescribed work and passing the examinations. Many unemployed highschool graduates can be turning their time to splendid use by enrolling in the Emergency Junior Radio College and satisfactorily completing the work. At virtually no added expense, they can put themselves in line for credit that would cost them hundreds of dollars on a college campus.

An Emergency Citizenship Training School and an Emergency Elementary Radio School are to be broadcast on other sets of stations. —B. H. DARROW, *Director Ohio School of the Air, and National Congress Radio Chairman.*

Tennessee

A new plan for gathering news is announced in the December-January issue of the *Tennessee Parent-Teacher:* "Hereafter all districts failing to send in news items for the bulletin will be listed in the morgue. Start the New Year right and don't be a dead district."

Washington

Out of thirty-four million crossings made by school children of Seattle during 1933, only one child was hurt at a school crossing and that because the motorist failed to obey the signal of the patrol boy. This record is credited to the efficiency of the Seattle School Boy Patrol, under Sergeant George W. Kimball.

The Executive Committee of the *Washington* Congress has been authorized to organize safety councils in all cities of *Washington* where none now exist. This will be done in cooperation with other safety agencies or groups, such as police departments. Special stimulus will be given this work throughout the state to honor the memory of the late Helen Wilson, former field secretary, whose untimely end came through an automobile accident.—MRS. NEIL HAIG, *State Publicity Chairman.*

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"Idleness is, and always has been, dangerous and expensive. Recreation is no substitute for work, but it can and does help tremendously."